

On May 21, 1881, Clara Barton founded the American Red Cross as part of a global humanitarian effort to provide assistance to victims of war. Expanding on Clara's vision, the American Red Cross became one of the nation's finest emergency response organizations.

On this milestone 130th anniversary, I would like to thank the American Red Cross for always coming to the aid of the citizens in need, including those in my home state of Florida. I commend them for their response to disasters such as Hurricane Andrew and the earthquake in Haiti. The American Red Cross deserves recognition for its ability to help people in times of considerable tragedy.

The American Red Cross makes it a priority to help rebuild communities that are devastated by hurricanes and other natural disasters. It focuses on providing relief to communities that are affected by any type of disaster. Many natural disasters leave the area too devastated to respond. The people still need help to ensure they make it through these tough times.

More than half a million volunteers and over than 35,000 employees allow the American Red Cross to provide assistance to the people who need it most. Through its 700 chapters, the Red Cross responds to disasters all across America and around the world. They mobilize communities in order to respond in the most effective way. Without the American Red Cross, many of the people affected by tragedy would not get the help they need.

The American Red Cross deserves recognition for its efforts on this special day. Their work extends to help people almost anywhere in the world. They provide the help that many people so desperately need in times of great hardship.

On this day, we remember all they have done in the past 130 years, and should take comfort in knowing that the American Red Cross is there to help when we need it most.